(d) the details of underground sewage facilities provided in such colonies; and

(e) by when all these people are likely to be provided with potable water and other civic amenities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) According to Registrar General, India the population of the Union Territory of Delhi, as on 1st March, 1981 was 62,20,406.

(b) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Mini Steel Plants

1237. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

SHRI F. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of mini steel plants in the country;

(b) the number of mini steel plants facing closure or actually closed;

(c) what are the reasons for such a situation; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) There are 160 mini steel plants in the country. Of these 10 are closed at present due to reasons such as power disconnection, and financial, management and labour problems etc.

(d) Government have taken steps to improve scrap availability to mini steel plants by increasing imports and reducing the level of customs duty.

Regularisation of Sainik Farm Colony at Khanpur, New Delhi

1238. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to rsgularise the Sainik Farm a colony of ex-army personnel at Khanpur in New Delhi; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

1239. [*Transferred to the 17th March*, 1987].

Installation of Statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi

1240. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to install statue of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi at a prominent place in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to install double life size statue either in Bronze or stone.

Popularisation of Cheap Building Material

1241. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to popularise the use of cheap building materials and to develop and implement low cost housing for the poor;

(b) whether there are any special trained and technical personnel to execute such works; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the works undertaken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH)): (a) The Government through its agencies promotes the use of cheaper building materials and low cost housing by constructing houses under the experiment housing scheme and cluster of demonstration houses, through publications and annual competitions for low cost houses.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. 55 percent of HUDCO's funds are earmarked for the construction of houses for the economically weaver sections and low income groups.

Implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme

1242. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the reduction in the number of families living below the poverty line in the country because of the assistance given under the IRDP so far;

(b) by when, under the IRDP, Government propose to give at least first instalment of help to all the families living below the poverty line; and

(c) what would be the financial requirements for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) During the Sixth Five Year Plan 16.56 lakh families had been assisted under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. During 1985-86, 3.061 million families have been assited. Major evaluation studies have been conducted by Institute for Financial Management & Research (IFMR), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of Planning Commission, during the Sixth Plan. According to PEO study 49.4 per cent of the sample size of 1170 have crossed the poverty line of Rs. 3500. NABARD study has observed that of the sample of 1498, 47 per cent had crossed the poverty line. According to RBI study, of the sample size of 730, 17 per cent (after discounting the income for agricultural labourers as on February, 1984) have crossed the poverty line. According to 12 monthly Concurrent Evaluation Studies, 52 per cent of the old families have crossed the old poverty line of Rs. 3500 and 12 per cent the revised poverty line of Rs. 6400.

(b) and (c) During the Seventh Plan it is proposed to assist 20 million families. This includes old families assisted during the Sixth Plan who have not crossed the poverty line for no fault of theirs. According to the NSSO 38th round Consumer Expenditure Distribution about 44 million families in rural areas are living below poverty line. It is proposed to reduce the percentage of families below the poverty line to 10 per cent by 1994-95. No assessment of financial requirement has been made by this Department.

Coal Based Fertilizer Plant at Korba

1243. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted to examine the economic viability of establishing coal based fertilizer plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for slow progress of the implementation of the coal based fertilizer plant at Korba and the steps government propose to take to expedite it; and